

Help from Killeen, Knoxville Areas:

Primary School Renovation Underway in Al Rashid

By Spc. Andy Miller

122nd MPAD

AL RASHID, Baghdad, Iraq- Members from Alpha Co. 1st Battalion, 8th Regiment Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division and the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion visited the Al Musaffee Primary School in the Karb Degla Muhala of Al Rashid. The visit signifies a kept promise between the Soldiers, school officials and the residents of the Muhala.

Najim Abud, the Al Musaffee headmaster, said he has often asked for help in the past with the school. Until now, his efforts have proved fruitless.

"[This] team promised they'd do something in the next few days, and at this time and on this day [they kept their promise]," Abud said.

The plan calls for an Iraqi



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Maj. Gregg Lester, the Team Chief of Three North Team, 489th Civil Affairs Battalion from Knoxville Tenn., attached to the 1st Cavalry Division, distributes school supplies to children at the Al Musaffee primary school in the Karb Degla Muhala (neighborhood) of Al Rashid. Lester finds that friends and family members from Knoxville are happy to donate school supplies to Iraqi children.

Continued on Page 2

Planet Headhunter:

FOB's New Cafe Provides A Place for Soldiers to Get Away

By Spc. Jan Critchfield

122nd MPAD

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HEADHUNTER- After a long, sweaty patrol through Baghdad's back alleys and crowded streets, what could be better for the Soldiers of Forward Operating Base Headhunter than to sit back, unwind, and enjoy a cold one with a few friends?

With FOB Headhunter's barracks filled to the gills, the former 1st Armored Division's

break rooms and broom closets became 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers' living quarters. The

First Team Soldiers had no room to have a spot to get out of the sun and kick back, until



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Soldiers of Forward Operating Base Headhunter chow down on burgers and sodas opening day at the new restaurant, Planet Headhunter.

1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment Command Sgt. Major Donald Felt stepped up to the plate.

"The previous unit that was assigned to this FOB started a contract to build an MWR building, the preface of which was to have half as a gymnasium and half of it as a restaurant," Felt said. "We moved into the FOB on the 2nd of April [and] the building was just finished, but the gymnasium

Continued on Page 3

1-8 Cav., 489th CA Combine Efforts to Help Kids

Continued from Page 1
contractor to completely renovate the school. New paint, windows, furniture, electrical and plumbing is part of the package. In addition, Soldiers

from the 1-8 and 489th brought school supplies sent to them from the Fort Hood area.

Family, friends, church groups, community groups and employers in the Killeen area have sent school supplies for

the children of Iraq, according to Lt. Andy Forney, the Alpha Co. executive officer.

"We've got about 30 boxes of school supplies and candy that have come," Forney said. "We send it to all the different schools in the region. It's a good way for the Iraqis and the Americans back in the states to interact with each other."

The school currently trains about 450 students a session. They deal with a leaky roof, broken desks, faulty plumbing and a sporadic power supply. Helping to refurbish this school has already improved the relationship the 1-8 Cav. has with residents in this neighborhood, said 1st Sgt. Ronald Smiley, Alpha Co. 1-8 Cavalry.

"I've seen the attitudes change since we've been coming [here] to give out candy and school supplies," Smiley said. "At first they were afraid to talk to Soldiers. They would run away. Now they run to soldiers. They wave at soldiers. The people in the neighbor-

hood are happy that we are trying to do something positive."

The Al Musaffee Primary School renovation project is just one of many school projects the 1-8 Cav. and 489th CA Bn. are working on in the Al Rashid area. Add these to all the school projects the First Team is working on throughout the Baghdad area, and the impact on the area's education system is significant.

"The children of this country are the ones who are actually going to either make or break this country," said Maj. Gregg Lester, a team chief with 489th CA Bn. "That's why we felt it was very important to at least show these schoolchildren, as well as the people who are running the school that we support them. That actually lends legitimacy to their educational system, their administrators and then it lends legitimacy to the coalition and their efforts to try to build a repertoire to build trust, to try to get this country moving forward."



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Lt. Col. Jay Allen, the 1-8 Cav. battalion commander, stands by as Soldiers raise a coalition joint task force sign in front of the Al Musaffee school in Al Rashid. The 1-8 Cav. and 489th Civil Affairs Battalion are working to refurbish the primary school as part of their efforts to rebuild the Al Rashid district of Baghdad.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Who?	mi-nuu?
What?	shi-nuu?
When?	ish-wakit?

Friday

High: 94
Low: 68



Saturday

High: 93
Low: 67



Sunday

High: 96
Low: 73



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office



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'Support Our Soldiers' Program Initiated by Monticello Lions Club

► From *Monticello Times*

Currently far from home and their loved ones, Monticello's own Delta Battery was celebrated Thursday, at a Monticello Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting, held at the Monticello Country Club.

Larry Shellito, the Adjutant General for the Minnesota National Guard and commander of all Army and Air Guard personnel in Minnesota, spoke at the event. National Guard staff people remaining in Monticello were also in attendance, as was special guest Theresa Lillie, wife of Delta Battery's commander, Major Pete Lillie.

In conjunction with Shellito's visit, the Monticello

Lions unveiled a project to send community-gathered care packages to the local guard unit, which has been stationed in Iraq since April. The project, named S.O.S.—Support Our Soldiers—is an ambitious effort, the Lions said, and will require a great deal of local support.

Shellito, who assumed his responsibilities as Adjutant General in November, is assigned to command the 34th Infantry Division (Red Bull), headquartered in Rosemount.

The general was introduced at the luncheon by Chamber member Tom Feaski, a retired National Guard Colonel and past Chamber President.

"This is one special community," Shellito said. "This is a community that's done so

much—this is a community that has its ducks in a row."

His highest regards were directed to the young men and women serving in today's armed forces.

"What this generation currently is being called by many is the next great generation," he said. "Their attitude is something special."

He offered special thanks to the Monticello community for the Delta Battery's deployment send-off at the high school last November, describing the local support on that occasion as "tremendous."

Of the Delta Battery, assigned to guard the Baghdad airport, the general said, "From all reports I've received, you can all be very, very proud of them. They are doing an out-

standing job."



Monticello Times

Maj. Gen. Larry Shellito, Minnesota National Guard adjutant general, joined Theresa Lillie in kicking off the "Support Our Soldiers" program, sponsored by the Monticello Lions Club.

Planet Headhunter Provides Camaraderie, Relaxation, Reminder of Home

Continued from Page 1

um and the restaurant were not finished at that time. So we continued that process so we could open up a facility for the Soldiers to visit and get a meal



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD
Spec. Joe McKenzie of Arkansas' 39th Brigade puts the finishing touches on the sign outside Planet Headhunter's front entrance.

other than the mess hall."

That initial idea turned into what is now a restaurant called Planet Headhunter, an Iraqi-run burger and pizza joint with a calm, café-like ambiance. A patio is also being added for those that would like to have a smoke with their meal.

On the grand opening, May 5, Soldiers were fed free food from the FOB's new cafe.

"Basically, it's an Iraqi business operating here on the FOB," Felt said. "It's going to open at ten in the morning and close at nine at night which is helpful because we only have lunch served on the FOB three days a week. The other days Soldiers eat MREs [meals ready-to-eat]. Of course, that isn't very popular, so having an alternate selection for them is a good thing."

The idea of having half of the building as a gym worked

out, as the equipment they previously had was moved.

"The previous unit had a gym in a tent, so we moved the equipment into the [building]. We purchased some additional equipment such as a treadmill, stair climber and bicycles.

"In the process of doing that, we noticed that the gym was very big and decided to put [in] a wall and [to further] partition the building so that we could open a bar. Of course, a near-beer bar," he added with a chuckle.

"It gives a Soldier somewhere to go and for a moment, at least, step out of Baghdad. Our intent was to have this remind them of home," he said.

"The camaraderie that develops from them being able to relax, sit around a table, throw back a near-beer and talk about things, that's what's important."

Felt is also leading a spirit-

ed campaign to try and convince country music megastar Toby Keith to visit FOB Headhunter and play a few songs for the troops.

"Right now the bar is called 'Toby's Favorite Bar,'" Felt said proudly. "We've named the bar after Toby Keith because we appreciate the patriotism of the songs Toby Keith has sung in the last few years."

"Hopefully, someday we can get Toby Keith to visit FOB Headhunter and sing a concert for our troops," Felt added.

On the horizon, FOB Headhunter hopes to add a coffee shop and a theatre to their ever-growing Iraqi home.

"Projects like these allow the Soldiers to step out of the rubble and out of the grey of cement and barriers...and have a little bit better of a quality of life," he said.

Today in History

May 21

► From historychannel.com

1881 American Red Cross founded
1901 Connecticut became the first state to enact a speeding-driver law (speed of all motor vehicles should not exceed 12mph on country highways and eight mph within city limits)
1927 American pilot Charles Lindbergh lands in Paris
1932 Female aviator Amelia Earhart completes transatlantic flight
1945 Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall marry

Today in Cav History

1966 Sgt David C. Dolby, B-1/8 Cavalry earns the Medal of Honor
1991 The Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division activated at Fort Hood, Texas

Fort Hood MPs Support Local Special Olympics in Torch Run

► From *Killeen Daily Herald*
 FORT HOOD, Texas- In the mid-afternoon sun Wednesday, soldiers from the 89th Military Police Brigade grabbed an Olympic-style torch from representatives of the Copperas Cove Police Department and started a trek that would take them down Tank Destroyer Boulevard.

The soldiers carried the torch and their unit's flags on a 9.5-mile journey to raise money and awareness for the Special Olympics, prior to this weekend's Texas Summer Games in San Marcos.

The annual Texas Law Enforcement Torch Run kicked off Wednesday morning as four members of the Copperas Cove Police Department made the initial run through Cove.

The 89th MP Brigade assumed its role in the day's run at Old Georgetown Road and Copperas Cove Road near Fort Hood's boundary in Copperas Cove.

During the run, Smith Middle School and Meadows

Elementary School students showed their support for the soldiers as they waved U.S. and Texas flags given to them by their teachers.

Soldiers from 720th HHC and 89th HHC were the first to get their hands on the torch, as they began the Fort Hood leg of the run.

The 64th Military Police Company was second to assume torch duties, followed by the 401st MP Company, 411th MP Company, 4th MP Company, 149th MP Company and the 178th MP Detachment.

The Killeen Police Department will continue the run, handing off the torch to the Harker Heights Police Department.

The Texas Law Enforcement team for Special Olympics will end the event with a passing of the Special Olympics Torch Ceremony at the Bell County Expo Center.

The torch will be taken to the 2004 Texas Summer Games this weekend at Texas State University in San Marcos,

where more than 2,800 athletes will compete.



Killeen Daily Herald

Daniel Leeds, a fifth-grader at Smith Middle School at Fort Hood, slaps hands with a member of the 89th Military Police Brigade as they participate in the annual Central Texas Law Enforcement Torch Run on Wednesday. The event sought to raise money and awareness for the Special Olympics.



MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Oakland 3
 Detroit 2

Tampa Bay 9
 Boston 6

Chicago 10
 Minnesota 3

NATIONAL LEAGUE

St. Louis 11
 New York 4

San Francisco 5
 Chicago 3

Milwaukee 3
 Montreal 2

Philadelphia 4
 Los Angeles 0

Pittsburgh 9
 San Diego 7

Florida 6
 Houston 2

Cincinnati 3
 Colorado 1

Atlanta 5
 Arizona 1



NBA

CONFERENCE

SEMIFINALS

(Best of 7 series)

Eastern Conference

Detroit 90
 New Jersey 69
 (Detroit wins series 4-3)

TV GUIDE

	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
18:00	Ozzy & Drix/ As Told By Ginger	Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	AMA Motocross	The X-Files
19:00	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 19:30	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys/ Spongebob Squarepants
20:00	ESPNNews/ Headline News	Blast From the Past	French Open Tennis - Early Round Coverage Day 5	The Simpsons/ The Cosby Show
21:00	The Simpsons/ Malcolm in the Middle			The Dead Zone
22:00	The Apprentice	Geniuses		Boston Public